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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Items 29 and 68 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 3 May 1991 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter dated 3 May 1991 from His Excellency Mr. Abdul Wakil, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, addressed to you (see annex).

I have further the honour to request that the text of the present letter and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 29 and 68 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad E. ROSHAN-RAWAAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/46/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 3 May 1991 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General

Following our conversations on 1 May 1991 at United Nations Headquarters, I would like to inform you of the following:

Over three years have elapsed since the signing of the Geneva Agreements between Afghanistan and Pakistan, which were aimed at ending foreign interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, solving the differences, and improving bilateral relations between the two countries. Based on these Agreements, the limited Soviet military contingent returned to their country over two years ago. The Republic of Afghanistan as a party to the Agreements has always tried to the best of its ability to fulfil its commitments arising from the accords. However, the party, i.e., Pakistan, since the very beginning has not adhered to its commitments - it has stepped up overt intervention in different forms in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. So far, for instance, 13,520 cases of violation by Pakistan of the Geneva Agreements have been reported through 1,881 notes of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan to the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) and then to the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan and Pakistan (OSGAP).

In pursuit with the humanitarian policy of national reconciliation, the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan has lately forwarded new offers wherein it has called for living in peace and security with all its neighbours, Pakistan in particular, and has stood for economic and political cooperation instead of military rivalry. But negligent to all these constructive proposals of the Afghan side, Pakistan obstinately keeps on its intervention, including arms interference, in the domestic affairs of Afghanistan. The latest aggression by the regular military and militia units of Pakistan on Khost province is a distinctive example to this effect.

From the very beginning of the preparation for attack on Khost in early March 1991, irrefutable evidence showed that the military quarters of Pakistan had made enormous efforts and were preparing for an extensive aggression. The position of Pakistan's military units, for instance, was changed in the vicinity of Afghanistan's borders for a direct involvement in the aggression and for providing further help and support for the Afghan opposition. For example, the anti-tank batallion No. 37 related to army corps No. 30 was shifted from Gujranwala to army corps No. 11 based in Kohat. The artillery regiment 33 and infantry regiment 80 of the infantry division were shifted to Tal area adjacent to the border. Moreover, the airforce squadron batallion No. 9 related to army corps No. 11 came in a state of stand-by at the vicinity of the borders. The Bano and Miram Shah airports located near the borders were also on the alert.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan warned the Government of Pakistan in this respect through a letter dated 12 March 1991. Likewise, a letter was sent on 19 March 1991 by the Foreign Minister of Afghanistan addressed to Your Excellency.

However, the intervention and preparations by Pakistan not only were not reduced but a direct assault began with the Pakistani forces, including artillery, rocket and ground units involved. Incidents of Pakistan intrusions over the airspace of the Republic of Afghanistan in Khost were also noticed. In addition, the Pakistani forces directly took part in the massacre of local inhabitants and looting of their properties.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan apprised Your Excellency as the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the situation through letters dated 23, 25 and 31 March 1991 wherein the developments were illucidated, and asked for the taking of urgent measures to prevent the aggression.

Furthermore, the Pakistani authorities were notified of the matter by protest notes dated 19, 23, 24, 25, 29 and 31 March 1991 to halt its interference and aggression against the Republic of Afghanistan and to abide by the spirit and letter of the Geneva Agreements as an international authentic document.

Likewise, the State of the Republic of Afghanistan publicly stated that, despite the intensification of intervention by Pakistan and violation of the Geneva Agreements by that country, the Afghan side still insists on the political settlement of the situation and called upon Pakistan to display goodwill and to give way to cooperation instead of confrontation. In addition, we appealed to the leaders of some other countries to make use of their influence and prestige for the cessation of Pakistani interference.

Meanwhile, emphatic instructions were given to the units of the armed forces of the Republic of Afghanistan based near the border fully to avoid any steps which would lead to further deterioration of the situation. This instruction was completely translated into practice. But unfortunately, the Pakistani side left without response to these calls and, instead of avoiding aggression and interference in Khost war, it was engaged in strengthening its military units, expediting the dispatch of arms and ammunition and increased its negative propaganda.

The Hindustan Times of 16 April, quoting reliable sources, divulged that right before the beginning of military operations, under the guidance of Pakistan, the American cargo aircraft were loaded with a quantity of arms and ammunition from Saudi Arabia and shipped to Pakistan which were used during the war in Khost. As a result of the intensification of intervention by Pakistan, imbalance of forces and the unfavourable climate, Khost collapsed and the Pakistani units, together with armed opposition forces, particularly with Khalis and Gulbuddin groupings, who were never able alone to implement such a plot, entered Khost.

According to the information of the government officials of Afghanistan, up to 10,000 Pakistani armymen, militias and police, 200 tanks and several artillery and rocket units of that country were directly involved in the combat operations against the forces based in Khost and provided supportive operations. These units, accompanied by Pakistan militias equipped with assorted weapons, attacked the Khost City from the east and surroundings of that province under the command of Pakistani generals named Kazimi and Hariz, as well as Haqani, a leader of the Afghan extremists.

The artillery regiment 66 of the Pakistan army using heavy weapons, staged an attack from Sayed Raki of Miram Shah, the infantry regiment 66 of that country under the command of General Sarwar Khan, together with Egyptian advisers Ziauddin and Omer using 20 tanks, launched their attack from the centre of Miram Shah through Tal on Zadran and Nadirshah Kot areas.

Moreover, the Rawalpindi artillery regiment commanded by Jafar Khan, with 3,000 commando personnel wearing the costumes of the Afghan opposition using heavy weapons, attacked Zahra, Spena and Mangal areas.

Also, a commando unit of the Pakistan army with 500 men dressed in Afghan costumes, attacked Tanai district using light weapons. The artillery regiment 59 of the Pakistan army using heavy weapons opened fire on Ismael Khel area. A group of 500 youth attached to Jamiate Tulaba-i-Pakistan and some Filipinos together with the Afghan opposition making use of light weapons took part in the Khost war under the names of Al-Bader-1 and Al-Bader-2. Even after the fall of Khost, Pakistan continued with its intervention. For instance, on 23 April 1991, two Pakistani nationals, Eshtiaq Ahmad, son of Mushtaq Ahmad, and Tabish Sediqi, son of Abdul Wadoud, attached to Jamaate Islami Pakistan, inhabitants of Rawalpindi, were captured in Wagh Jan Gorge, Logar province, by the armed forces of Afghanistan while perpetrating armed subversive activities against the people and state of the Republic of Afghanistan. A rocket launcher and one klashinkov rifle have been seized from them. In a press conference on 24 April at Kabul, they confessed that, together with three other Pakistani nationals named Afran, Anis and Wais, they had been introduced by Doctor Kamal, a Pakistani citizen to the office of Gulbuddin's Islamic Party in Peshawar for dispatch to Afghanistan 20 days before their arrest. They have also admitted that, with the instruction and guidance of Fayaz, a Pakistani national, they were transferred to Kunjaki area of Logar to take part together with other eight armed persons who were Pakistanis too in leading combat operations against the Republic of Afghanistan in Tangi Wagh Jan, Logar province.

The commando, ground and tank units of Pakistan (about 40 tanks) were seen while committing murder and plunder in Khost after taking over that city. After the fall of Khost, these forces promptly returned to their previous positions. Prior to the fall of Khost, the long range artillery force of Pakistan in Miram Shah (newly deployed there) and the rocket units of that country (based in Ghulam Khan area) were opening heavy fire on the Afghan positions. This fire was made regularly and was professionally managed.

The Pakistani officers had also taken part in the mobilization and governing of the Afghan opposition forces. (Their conversations on the wireless were heard.) Pakistan bulldozers and road construction means took part in levelling the crossing ways for the armoured and transportation vehicles. Meetings were also held at different levels even at a highest level that is, with the President of Pakistan in chair, to organize the attack on Khost and to conduct its subsequent affairs. (Mention was made of it in the protest note dated 8 April 1991.)

According to available information, the order of attack on Khost was given by General Durani, Chief of Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan. This condition not only runs counter to our wishes for a political settlement of the situation and the establishment of an atmosphere of cooperation and friendship with Pakistan. It is also a gross violation of the Geneva Agreements resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, and the internationally-accepted norms, particularly the principles and goals of the Charter of the United Nations Organization.

After the fall of Knost, the Pakistani forces, together with extremist armed opposition, resorted to looting and destruction of public and private properties, torture and massacre of the civilians, compulsory immigration of the inhabitants to Pakistan, killing and torture of the captives, a situation that is of grave concern for the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. Two letters bearing complaints in this respect were sent to Your Excellency as the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Likewise, under the protest notes dated 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 April 1991, Pakistan was asked to renounce from open and wicked interference in Khost incidents, i.e., illegal travel by individuals and officials of that country to Khost, disrespect to the dead bodies and martyrs and the mobilization and governing of the armed opposition forces. Unfortunately, no serious action has been taken to prevent and avoid such actions. But in the meantime, the interference by Pakistan has been intensified in other border provinces of Afghanistan like Kandahar, Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar, Ghazni and Logar. In addition, letters have been sent by Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan to the leaders of some countries.

Likewise, Pakistani officials, above all, Qazi Hussain Ahmad, a Pakistani senator, General Hamid Gul, commandant of Multan army corps, Colonel Imam and General Durani, Chief of ISI of Pakistan, by trampling down the principles of international law and by naked violation of the Geneva Agreements have entered Khost province illegally, without passports and visas and have met the Pakistani military units and the Afghan opposition groupings.

Some Pakistani Ministers of Parliament have strongly protested and condemned the visit of these people to Khost. Similarly, General Kazimi, a Pakistani national, together with Sayed Ahmad Gailani, head of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan visited Khost on 20 April to talk to and counsel with the local commanders of opposition in Paktia province. On 21 April, they took part in the meeting of the local commanders of the opposition whence Jalaluddin Haqani also spoke. In his talk, Jalaluddin Haqani called on the

commanders related to the Alliance of Seven to give support on their preparedness for attack on Gardez on the earliest. The plan of cooperation and coordination of the activities of the armed groups attached to different organizations for attack on Gardez, centre of Paktia province was assessed in this meeting. Moreover, men of Commander Haqani who declined to expose their identity stated on 14 April that Major General Janjo, Operation Director of Pakistan's intelligence service in Peshawar, will meet in the near future with Haqani and Gulbuddin in Khost. According to the same source, a high ranking delegation of ISI arrived in Khost on 6 April.

Apart from the information given by the mass media and that gathered by the detecting organs of Afghanistan, on the interventions of Pakistan, the following evidence and facts are also available:

1. Pronouncements by eyewitnesses, such as Mirza Alam Hamidi, head of the Exhibitions Department of the Commerce Ministry and a tribal figure, Major-General Abdul Satar, Colonel Bemillah, Major Abdul Zahir, Senior Captain Nazar Mohammad, Senior Captain Shir Hasan, First Lieutenant Najibullah, First Lieutenant Sayed Nazim, officers of the armed forces of Afghanistan, as well as by Abdul Wahab, Abdul Hanan, Sediqullah, Abdul Wasie, Mohammad Hashim, Khwaja Mahtabuddin, Mohammad Shah, Abdul Samie, Mohammad Azam, soldiers of the armed forces who have returned safe from Khost incidents and some of them were even detained for a couple of days and then have escaped from them. Some of these people were transferred to Pakistan and from there they rescued themselves in view of tribal relationships.

2. The assertions by some Pakistani political personalities, senators and deputies to the Parliament, among them, Mahmoud Khan Achekzai and Mujiburrahman, leaders of Pashtoonkhwa National Awami Party, Omar Asghar, Chairman of the Isteqlal Youth League and a member of the National Working Committee of Tahreek Isteqlal Party, Afrasiab Khatak, Chairman of Pashtoonkwa Qawmi Enqilabi Party.

3. Statements by the organizers of attack on Khost, such as Qazi Hussain Ahmad, Liaqat Baluch, Jalaluddin Haqani, and others.

4. Publications by the mass media of Pakistan, countries of the region and world and eyewitness accounts by correspondents of the BBC on 22, 24 and 25 March, Voice of America on 26 March and 2 and 4 April. The Pakistani newspapers Nawai Waqt of 15 April 1991, Muslim of 6 April 1991, Nation of 9 April 1991, and others.

5. The expressions by some Pakistani policemen, such as Abdul Satar and Mohammad Alam, to Afghan eye witnesses who were taken to Pakistan and then escaped.

The Government of Afghanistan demands the following with regard to the situation in Khost and its consequences:

(a) Cessation of interventions and aggression by Pakistan and full implementation of the Geneva Accords by that country;

(b) Honouring of the safety of the prisoners of war and wounded persons and their humane treatment until their release as called for under international norms;

(c) Cooperation of the international community, including the United Nations, to this effect with Afghanistan.

It should be pointed out that, despite the prevalent situation and the incidents in Khost, the Republic of Afghanistan firmly stands for a political solution of the situation in Afghanistan. This goodwill of the Republic of Afghanistan has been reflected in our proposals to the Pakistani side for the settlement of the disputes through talks and embarking on the path of economic cooperation instead of confrontation which we confirm once again. Likewise, in connection with the Afghan opposition, we consider dialogue and talk as the only way for settling all the problems.

Abdul WAKIL
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Afghanistan

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Items 93, 94 and 99 of the preliminary list*
ELIMINATION OF RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
First regular session of 1991
Item 8 of the provisional agenda**
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Note verbale dated 6 May 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the resolution, dated 30 April 1991, of the People's Assembly of the Republic of Albania on the problem of Kosova (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 93, 94 and 99 of the preliminary list, and of the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council.

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* A/46/50.

** E/1991/30.

ANNEX

Resolution dated 30 April 1991 of the People's Assembly of Albania on the question of Kosova

The Albanian autochthonous people living in their own territories, but incorporated within the Yugoslav Federal State, wherein they come third in population number, are confronted with a new threat of unpredictable consequences.

The big Serb chauvinism is not confined only to serious and systematic violation of the fundamental rights of Albanians, to their imprisonment, deportation and murder, but it is also in a hurry to eliminate their autonomy. In recent days, this chauvinism resolved to go even further: it decided to divide Kosova into regions, so that its medieval myth could finally come true, thus pushing to the extreme the ugliest crime against mankind, that of genocide against about three million Albanians in their ancestral territories.

Through this artifice and the ways and means the Serb leaders use, they are trying to legitimate the invasion of Kosova, thus posing a threat to peace and stability not only in Yugoslavia, but also in the Balkans and Europe.

It is common knowledge, however, that the Albanian people of Kosova have clearly expressed their sovereign will through the decision of the Assembly of Kosova on 2 July 1990. Through this act they demand no more than the other Slav peoples in Yugoslavia. Therefore, the claim that allegedly the Albanians, by being recognized as a people, want to accomplish their immediate secession, is a pretext to nip in the bud every constructive initiative that could be eventually launched from the other Yugoslav republics, to paralyse the other Slav peoples, by nourishing in them the malignant pan-Slavic idea of disbelief toward the non-Slav peoples.

The Albanian people are being excluded from the talks on the Yugoslav crisis. This consitutes a violation of the universal principle of self-determination, which is sanctioned by the Federal Constitution itself. But it is not the fault of this people if they were divided in half through the dictate of the old diplomacy.

Therefore we demand that:

1. An end be put to the invasion and to the systematic violence exercised by the Serb State against the Albanian martyr people.

2. The Albanians living in their own territories within the Yugoslav Federal State be recognized as a people and nation and be ensured their participation in the talks on the new agreement on the basis of equality with the other peoples in Yugoslavia.

3. The regionalization of Kosova not be allowed.

4. All the rights of our Albanian brothers residing in their own territories in Yugoslavia, which are recognized by the Yugoslav Constitution and the Helsinki acts, including that of self-determination, be recognized and fully observed.

5. The Albanian Government be authorized to take the necessary action near the States and international organizations to guarantee these rights.

These questions being of great concern, we deem it necessary to forward an appeal to the European and world opinion for greater understanding, fuller and more concrete commitment, so that the fire the big Serb chauvinists want to make is prevented, for such a conflagration could have unpredictable proportions. This is not only a message to our brothers, but also a fundamental obligation of half of our nation towards its other half.

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Forty-sixth session
Item 25 of the preliminary list*

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Letter dated 7 May 1991 from the Permanent Representatives of Colombia and Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text, in French and English, of the final communiqué of the First Institutionalized Ministerial Meeting between the European Community and the Rio Group, held in Luxembourg on 26 and 27 April 1991.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 25 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Luxembourg
to the United Nations

(Signed) Dr. Fernando CEPEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Colombia
to the United Nations

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* A/46/50.

ANNEX

Conclusions of the First Institutionalized Ministerial Meeting between the European Community and the Rio Group held in Luxembourg on 26 and 27 April 1991

1. The First Institutionalized Ministerial Meeting between the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the European Community and its member States and of the Rio Group countries was held in Luxembourg on 26 and 27 April 1991, in accordance with the provisions of the Rome Declaration of 20 December 1990.

2. The following participated in the conference:

On behalf of the European Community:

Luxembourg	Mr. Jacques F. Poos Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs
Netherlands	Mr. Hans Van Den Broek Minister for Foreign Affairs
Portugal	Mr. João de Deus Pinheiro Minister for Foreign Affairs
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Tristan Garel-Jones Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Belgium	Mr. Paul de Keersmaeker State Secretary, European Affairs
Denmark	Mr. Henrik Woehlik State Secretary, Foreign Affairs
Germany	Mrs. Ursula Seiler-Albring Minister of State, Foreign Affairs
Spain	Mr. Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez Minister for Foreign Affairs
France	Ms. Edwige Avice Minister Attached to the Ministre d'Etat, Minister for Foreign Affairs
Greece	Mr. Georges Papastamkos State Secretary, Foreign Affairs
Ireland	Mr. Gerard Collins, T.D. Minister for Foreign Affairs
Italy	Mr. Gianni de Michelis Minister for Foreign Affairs

Commission	Mr. Abel Matutes Member of the Commission

On behalf of the Rio Group:

Argentina	Mr. Guido José Mario di Tella Minister for External Relations
Bolivia	Mr. Carlos Iturralde Ballivian Minister for External Relations and Ecclesiastical Affairs
Brazil	Dr. Francisco Rezek Minister of State, External Relations
Chile	Mr. Enrique Silva Minister for Foreign Affairs
Colombia	Mr. Luís Fernando Jaramillo Correa Minister for External Relations and Vice-President of the Republic
Ecuador	Mr. Diego Córdovez Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mexico	Mr. Fernando Solana Morales Minister for Foreign Affairs
Paraguay	Dr. Alexis Frutos-Vaesken Minister for External Relations
Peru	Dr. Carlos Torres y Torres Lara President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for External Relations
Uruguay	Mr. Hector Gros Espiell Minister for Foreign Affairs
Venezuela	Mr. Armando Duran Minister for Foreign Affairs

Representing the Central American countries:

Costa Rica	Mr. Bernd Niehaus Minister for Foreign Affairs

Representing the CARICOM countries:

Jamaica	Senator the Hon. David Coore, Q.C. Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica

3. The Ministers discussed political and economic issues. They welcomed the excellent relations between the European Community and its member States and the Rio Group in the political, economic and cultural fields, based on the close friendship linking the peoples of the two regions.

They agreed that it was in their mutual interest to strengthen further their solidarity in all areas.

In that spirit they welcomed the success of the Rome Ministerial Conference and the Rome Declaration of 20 December 1990, which institutionalized the dialogue and opened a new stage in relations between the two regions.

They welcomed the presence in the Rio Group of the two representatives of the countries of Central America and CARICOM and their participation for the first time in the political dialogue between the two regional groupings.

They took the opportunity of noting that the economic relations and cooperative relationship between the Community and its member States, on the one hand, and the Central American or Caribbean countries, on the other hand, were a matter for different institutional frameworks.

4. The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

They welcomed in particular the constructive role that the United Nations was playing in resolving a number of regional or international conflicts.

They expressed their support for the strengthening of the United Nations in the discharging of its responsibilities, particularly as regards maintaining international peace and security, economic cooperation and humanitarian assistance. They emphasized the need to uphold and observe in full the rules and principles of international law.

They decided to intensify their consultations within the United Nations on matters of common interest.

5. The Ministers stressed the importance of regional integration processes for economic and social development and affirmed that they promote peace, democracy and closer ties between peoples.

The Ministers welcomed the new dynamism in the integration processes in Latin America. They considered that the strengthening of such processes was an important factor in bringing about a qualitative change in the links between the Community countries and those of the Rio Group.

The Community Ministers resolved to support integration efforts in Latin America.

The Community Ministers briefed the Ministers of the Rio Group on the proceedings of the intergovernmental conferences on political union and economic and monetary union.

6. The Ministers supported the peace initiatives undertaken in Central America and welcomed the constructive contribution of the United Nations Secretary-General and of the Organization of American States.

They emphasized the specific nature of the political and economic dialogue between the European Community and the Central American States within the framework of the San José Conferences, expressing their conviction that this dialogue had contributed to the peace process in Central America and to development in that region.

They also drew attention to the contribution of the Rio Group, in particular the three cooperating countries, to the promotion of peace and economic development in that region.

7. The Ministers welcomed the role of CARICOM in the regional integration and economic development of the countries of the Caribbean.

They expressed their support for the development of an economic community in that region.

The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the Lomé Convention between the European Community and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries.

8. In the spirit of the overall objectives identified in the Rome Declaration, the Ministers emphasized their resolve to work for observance of the rule of law and for the strengthening of democratic institutions in their countries. In that connection the Ministers took note of the Seville Declaration signed at the tenth Interparliamentary Conference between the European Parliament and the Latin American Parliament.

In this regard, they expressed their conviction that democracy implied independence of and a balance between constitutional powers and also political pluralism, and must furthermore have as its objective the full achievement of social justice.

Reiterating the principle of the primacy of the democratically elected political authority, they welcomed recent progress in democracy.

They also reaffirmed their resolve to work together to create adequate conditions for economic and social development, thereby helping to eliminate poverty.

9. The Ministers stressed the link between democracy, human rights and sustained development. They also noted that democracy and respect for human rights were key factors in strengthening international cooperation and confidence among States.

The Ministers declared their resolve to combat any form of discrimination, whether on grounds of race, sex, culture or creed. They stressed the primary need for the protection of ethnic minorities, whose integration must be ensured while respecting their identity, and of refugees, women and children, in particular among the most disadvantaged sectors of the population.

10. The Ministers discussed the Gulf crisis. In this connection they emphasized the important role played by the United Nations in restoring international peace, security and legality. They reaffirmed their support for all relevant Security Council resolutions and emphasized in particular the need for full and unconditional implementation of resolution 687 (1991), as adopted by the Security Council. They also reiterated their belief that a peaceful settlement must be found for all conflicts in the region, in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions. The Ministers drew attention to the worrying refugee situation in the world and to that of the Kurdish and Shiite refugees in particular. They insisted on the importance of swift application in full of Security Council resolution 688 (1991) with the appropriate participation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and continued international aid for these refugees.

11. The Ministers reiterated the importance they attached to arms reduction and to the non-proliferation of weapons and instruments of mass destruction.

The Ministers accordingly noted with interest the initiative by Argentina and Brazil to set up a joint system of accounting and verification, applicable to all nuclear installations in both countries, and to negotiate an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

They expressed their support for the work of the Disarmament Conference, especially with regard to the total prohibition of chemical weapons at the earliest opportunity.

Both sides appealed to all States to refrain from exporting arms to areas where they could exacerbate a conflict.

The Ministers stated their resolve to reduce their military budgets as far as possible and to inform the United Nations annually of their defence budgets, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

12. The Ministers declared that they believed any acts of terrorism or terrorist threats to be totally unacceptable, regardless of the objective in view or the grounds for pursuing it.

They emphasized their resolve to devote particular attention to the prevention of terrorist acts.

13. The Ministers drew attention to the historic and cultural links between the two regions. They believed that the events that are to take place in 1992 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of these links should be characterised by

mutual understanding and respect and by the desire to strengthen further the bonds of friendship between Europe and Latin America.

14. Aware of the importance of information and the media, the Ministers expressed their wish to see a greater flow of information on each of the two regions in the media of the other, with full respect for freedom of the press and information.

15. The Ministers discussed the world economic situation, which gave them cause for concern. They agreed to cooperate in seeking solutions involving, in particular, the introduction of measures to promote reciprocal trade, economic cooperation and regional development. In this connection, the Community Ministers confirmed their intention of supporting the Latin American countries in their efforts for economic and social development, regional integration and fuller participation in the international economy.

16. The Ministers gave special attention to the debt problem. They acknowledged that the problem was an obstacle to political, economic and social development and to stability and consolidation of democracy in the Latin American countries.

The external pressure resulting from the high level of indebtedness of some Latin American countries, the burden of debt servicing and the links between debt, trade, development and investment could be increased for some countries by the recent international economic situation.

The Ministers recognized that the implementation of adjustment and economic liberalization policies created improved conditions for international cooperation on resolving the problem of indebtedness, the nature of which was such that it could not be resolved without greater cooperation between debtors and creditors in a spirit of joint responsibility. They pointed out that it was in the mutual interest of debtors and creditors to find a solution to this problem. They resolved to pay the requisite attention to the significant burden that external debt placed on the political, economic and social development of the countries of Latin America. To that end the Ministers recognized the need for resolute action in the appropriate forums, the Paris Club included, in order to make progress towards alleviating the debt burden.

17. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the resumption of the Uruguay Round negotiations and confirmed the importance that they attached to the successful conclusion of the negotiations as soon as possible. The Community Ministers saw the progress made by the Rio Group countries in opening up their economies as a positive factor in moving towards a satisfactory conclusion of the multilateral negotiations. Both sides expressed their determination to contribute as extensively as possible to the success of the negotiations and called upon all participants in the Round to act with flexibility and resolve in order to achieve substantial and balanced results.

18. The Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that the Generalized System of Preferences could make a useful contribution to more balanced international trade arrangements. They considered that better use of the advantages offered by the Community GSP could give added impetus to trade between both regions. They also noted that the Community had undertaken to review the system with a view to making it simpler, more transparent and more predictable.

The Ministers of the Rio Group countries thought it desirable to organize meetings with the Commission of the European Communities to foster exchanges of ideas in order to define the factors and measures that might help improve and expand the opportunities for those countries' exports to the Community market arising from implementation of the system.

19. The Community Ministers expressed their conviction that the completion of the single European market should bolster trade with third countries and, therefore, also open up new opportunities for exports from the Rio Group countries. While welcoming the recent progress in the Latin American regional integration process, the Community Ministers emphasized that the establishment of subregional integration zones should help step up reciprocal trade.

The Ministers of the Rio Group countries expressed their concern at the repercussions that the establishment of the single European market could have on exports from the region and expressed their interest in maintaining a steady flow of information and continuing talks on the likely effects of setting up the market in question.

20. The Ministers acknowledged that the existing cooperation between the two regions should be extended and stepped up even further in all fields.

In this connection, they noted with satisfaction the recent approval of the new general guidelines for Community cooperation with the countries of Latin America and welcomed the Community's decision to increase substantially the funding for this cooperation over the next five years.

The new guidelines meant that cooperation with the countries of Latin America could now be set in a multi-annual context as part of a more intensive dialogue covering both development aid for the poorest countries and sectors of the population and increased economic cooperation with the most advanced countries.

21. Recognizing the mutual benefit of cooperating in the area of investment, the Ministers again confirmed the importance they attached to increasing the flow of capital and productive investment to Latin America in order to revitalize the economies of the countries in question, stimulate trade and strengthen relations between industrialists in the two regions.

The Ministers accordingly confirmed the importance of improving the investment climate in the Latin American countries, as stated in the Rome Declaration.

22. In view of the economic stabilization policy being implemented by the Government of Peru, the Rio Group Ministers urged the member States of the European Community to support the early setting up of an international support group for Peru, as an essential and urgent step towards normalizing its financial relations.

The Community Ministers expressed sympathy for Peru in its difficult economic situation and their support for Peru's efforts to normalize its relations with the international financial institutions.

23. Priority areas of cooperation identified in the Rome Declaration

The Ministers considered the progress made since the Rome meeting in specifying the cooperation projects and initiatives between the European Community and the countries of the Rio Group that were signatories of the Rome Declaration, as mentioned therein.

(a) Cooperation in finance and investment

The Rio Group Ministers noted that, in accordance with the recent conclusion of the EEC Council of Ministers, the Community and its member States would shortly be holding a comprehensive debate on the external role of the European Investment Bank, and, in particular, on the possible extension of its activities on the various third countries and regions with which the Community had concluded cooperation agreements. The Ministers noted with interest that, in the meantime, without prejudging the conclusions to be drawn from the comprehensive debate, the Bank had been asked to examine, on a case-by-case basis, how it could contribute towards projects of common interest in those countries and regions already referred to which satisfied the Bank's criteria for action.

In this connection the Rio Group Ministers expressed their Governments' interest in submitting projects to the European Investment Bank and considered that opening up the Bank in this way, besides being a major step towards obtaining additional resources for the region, would have a favourable effect on the international capital market by giving rise to a better investment climate and greater utilization of the Community's financial mechanisms.

In addition, the Community and its member States declared their willingness to examine possible ways of collaborating on projects with regional financial institutions, in particular the Inter-American Development Bank.

The Ministers also noted the interest of the Rio Group countries in the European Community Investment Partners instrument, currently at the experimental stage, designed to encourage the setting up of joint undertakings in Latin America and to increase European investment in the region.

(b) Scientific and technological cooperation

The Ministers recorded that scientific and technological cooperation between the Community and the countries of the Rio Group was in their mutual interest.

Having noted that a debate on the topic was being prepared within the community bodies, the Rio Group Ministers expressed the hope that this debate would result in the participation of the Latin American countries in certain specific programmes under the third framework programme.

The Community Ministers stated their readiness to consider the participation of third countries, including member countries of the Rio Group, in specific community research programmes under agreements negotiated in accordance with the relevant Community procedures.

The Community Ministers recalled the Council's conclusions regarding guidelines for cooperation with Latin American and Asian developing countries and confirmed the Community's interest in strengthening the scientific and technological potential of the Latin American countries.

In this context, they confirmed their intention to continue and step up high-level scientific collaboration in activities under international scientific cooperation, for which the Ministers of the Rio Group hoped for significant budget increases to make possible an overall increase in activities and the financing of regional joint research projects.

The Community Ministers noted that the programme on life sciences and technologies for developing countries would be implemented in the near future; this would help to step up joint research in the area of agriculture and medicine.

The Rio Group Ministers also indicated their interest in Community support for an extension within Latin America of the TIPS Programme (Technological International Pilot System), which covers the exchange of technological and commercial information.

(c) Education and training of administrators and managers

Recognizing the mutual interest in increasing trade between the two regions and in accordance with contemporary economic requirements, the Ministers agreed to set up a human resources training programme in the Rio Group countries for administrators and managers.

With a view to making better use of human resources in the Rio Group countries, the Ministers agreed to implement a specific training programme and noted that the Commission of the European Communities had already begun the necessary work on implementing a work programme in close conjunction with the appropriate institutions and organizations of the two regions.

This work, which would be coordinated with the representatives of the Rio Group and the member States, would be based, in particular, on the following criteria:

- The modernization of administrative and industrial structures;

- Special attention to be given to the importance of regional and subregional integration;

- Priority to be given to the training of instructors;

- Use, where possible, of the infrastructure of existing institutions, avoiding duplication with national and multilateral activities in this area;

- Identification of measures to encourage the member countries of the Rio Group to join in European experiments in establishing closer relations between universities, the manufacturing sector and public administration.

(d) Cooperation in the process of regional and subregional integration

The Community Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the efforts being made by the Rio Group countries to expand and strengthen different forms of regional and subregional cooperation. The Ministers accordingly welcomed the Declaration adopted by the Rio Group in Bogotá in relation to the strengthening and restructuring of the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the recent signing of the Asunción Treaty establishing the Southern Cone Common Market, the renewed dynamism of the Cartagena Agreement, the progress made by the Group of Three and the Tuxtla Gutierrez Agreements entered into between Mexico and the countries of Central America, and also welcomed the partial economic complementarity agreements adopted in the framework of the 1980 Montevideo Treaty, which bore clear testimony to Latin America's desire for integration and were important instruments in bringing together the strands of the processes involved.

The Community Ministers stated their readiness to assist the countries of the Rio Group with both the theoretical and practical aspects of integration at regional, subregional and bilateral levels. Such cooperation would be implemented at appropriate levels and by appropriate bodies. Accordingly, technical assistance would continue to be given to the Andean Group under the cooperation agreement signed in this subregional integration process and a similar effort would be made for the Southern Cone Common Market and for those countries or groups of countries which requested such assistance.

The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the signing of the Inter-institutional Cooperation Agreement between the Commission of the European Communities and the General Secretariat of LAIA and anticipated the early development of a programme of work that included technical cooperation and an exchange of information between the two institutions.

The European Community expressed its willingness, in conjunction with the Latin American authorities concerned, to prepare a plan of specific action and in particular to implement a programme providing for the exchange of ideas and experience on problems of integration, taking account notably of practical aspects, and the importance of private sector participation.

24. Other areas of cooperation

(a) The environment

The Ministers again expressed their determination to protect the environment. They recognized that the future well-being of mankind would largely depend on its success in reconciling the protection and restoration of natural ecological balances with the needs of economic development.

They reiterated their determination to give priority to problems such as the deterioration of the ozone layer, global warming, cross-border flows of dangerous waste, acid rain and the protection of forests and marine ecosystems. They also expressed their concern with regard to the preservation of biological diversity, air pollution and reducing waste production.

They decided to hold consultations and cooperate closely on environmental protection and, specifically, to confer together as closely as possible before and during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil in 1992. In this context, the Rio Group Ministers pointed out that the Latin American countries had determined their position at the recent Mexico Conference, preparatory to that of Rio, and had adopted the Tlatelolco Platform, which constituted the basis for Latin America's action on this matter.

They welcomed the joint progress made by the Government of Brazil, the European Community and the World Bank in setting up a pilot project for Brazilian Amazonia, which would be the first step in a broader programme for the whole Amazonian region.

(b) Drugs

The Ministers stressed that controlling the drug scourge was one of the most serious challenges facing modern society.

They reaffirmed their determination to step up their cooperation in fighting the illicit production, distribution and consumption of drugs, and trafficking and trade in drugs, including trafficking in precursors and the laundering of drug money, in accordance with the 1988 Vienna Convention, and expressed support for the action taken by the producer countries to promote alternative development.

25. With a view to preparing their next meetings and keen to intensify even further their cooperation in the spirit of the Rome Declaration, the Ministers decided to institute consultations between experts from both regions on specific topics in the areas indentified in this document.

The topics for discussion and the detailed procedures for setting up these consultations, which would be held as far as possible on the occasion of international meetings, would be defined by common agreement.

26. The Ministers decided to meet in New York, in the margins of the forty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

They decided to meet in formal session within the framework of the institutionalized dialogue during the first semester of 1992 in Chile in accordance with the rule of alternation as established in the Rome Declaration.

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PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE PEACE IN THE WORLD

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND
THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Letter dated 8 May 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text, in French, of the appeal launched by my Government on 7 May 1991 concerning the situation currently prevailing in Somalia.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and the annex thereto circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 22, 27, 30 and 34 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Roble OLHAYE
Ambassador

* A/46/50.

ANNEX

Communiqué concerning the progression of the situation in Somalia, issued by the Government of Djibouti at the close of the Council of Ministers meeting of 7 May 1991

The Republic of Djibouti,

Concerned at the alarming situation currently prevailing in Somalia,

Conscious of its responsibilities,

Worried by the continuing civil war in Somalia,

1. Calls anew upon the international community and upon the Arab and Islamic nation in particular to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to the Somali people.

Such assistance must reach the populations afflicted by a war that has been going on for several years and must enable them to return to their homes;

2. Appeals to the Somali opposition organizations, asking them to work together to restore law and order and to rebuild the country.

Djibouti offers them, in all sincerity, its hospitality and its services.

It is prepared to welcome interested organizations, in Djibouti, on the dates to be agreed by them.

Djibouti considers itself duty-bound, at this difficult period of its existence, to express its solidarity with Somalia.

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Item 74 of the preliminary list*

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Secretariat units dealing with peace-keeping operations

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 45/75 of 11 December 1990, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General "to prepare for Member States a factual report describing the responsibilities, functions and structures of the various Secretariat units dealing with peace-keeping operations, including details of overload posts".

2. Like all activities of the Secretariat, peace-keeping is under the overall command of the Secretary-General. Because of the complex nature of United Nations peace-keeping responsibilities, almost all parts of the Secretariat are involved to some degree in advising and assisting the Secretary-General in the planning, direction, coordination, or administration of peace-keeping operations. While the extent of the responsibilities exercised by each Secretariat unit in this area varies, it is in practice impossible for peace-keeping functions to be isolated from the overall organizational structure of the Secretariat, which provides the institutional support for the execution of all United Nations operations. The present report accordingly lists in broad terms the units that deal in one manner or another with United Nations peace-keeping activities. An annex provides details of the distribution of overload posts authorized under the Special Account for Peace-keeping Operations.

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* A/46/50.

II. LISTING OF UNITS

A. Offices of the Secretary-General

1. Executive Office of the Secretary-General

3. The Secretary-General's Executive Office assists him in his dealings with the senior officials responsible for peace-keeping. In addition, those members of his immediate staff who deal with political affairs, and in particular with peace-making activities under his direct personal supervision, keep the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs informed of all activities which have a bearing on existing or prospective peace-keeping operations and consult him on the peace-keeping aspects. The same is the case with staff members or personalities from outside the Secretariat who are appointed as Special or Personal Representatives of the Secretary-General for situations where there may be a requirement for peace-keeping.

2. Office for Special Political Affairs

4. The Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, with his staff, advises and assists the Secretary-General in carrying out the duties entrusted to him in pursuance of General Assembly or Security Council decisions, or in fulfilment of his responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations, in the conduct and direction of peace-keeping operations. The Under-Secretary-General plans new peace-keeping operations and directs established ones. He provides political guidance and operational directives to the commanders of the United Nations peace-keeping operations in the field. The Office is responsible for the formulation of policies and negotiations in regard to specific peace-keeping operations, coordination with other offices, drafting reports and communications and providing liaison with governmental and non-governmental interlocutors. The specific area of responsibilities of staff may vary from time to time, particularly as new peace-keeping operations are planned or established.

3. Military Adviser to the Secretary-General

5. The Military Adviser to the Secretary-General and his staff are attached to the Office for Special Political Affairs and function on a day-to-day basis in close cooperation with the Under-Secretary-General and his political staff. The Military Adviser advises the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General on the military aspects of peace-keeping operations, from the planning to the implementation stage. The Military Adviser is assisted by military officers made available by Member States at the Secretary-General's request, who assist him in monitoring and supervising specific operations, coordinating with other offices, dealing with troop-contributing countries and providing briefings to other interested parties.

4. Office for Research and the Collection of Information

6. The Assistant Secretary-General of the Office for Research and the Collection of Information and his staff hold responsibilities for research and for the collection (and dissemination within the Secretariat) of information related to the responsibilities of the Secretary-General. In this capacity they liaise closely with the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs and provide him appropriate information at their disposal which may have implications for the establishment or functioning of peace-keeping operations.

5. Office of Legal Affairs

7. The Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel, and his staff provide advice to the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs on the legal aspects of peace-keeping operations, including in particular the negotiation and conclusion of status-of-mission agreements between the United Nations and host countries on whose territories peace-keeping operations may be established. Problems of a legal nature which arise in the conduct of peace-keeping operations are also referred to the Office of Legal Affairs for advice and guidance.

B. Department of Administration and Management

8. The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management and his staff play an important part in the planning and establishment of new peace-keeping operations. Through its three Offices headed by Assistant Secretaries-General, the Department participates in such planning in regard to the personnel, logistic and financial aspects of such operations and implements those aspects of existing peace-keeping operations. Within the Department, the units below have specific responsibilities in relation to peace-keeping operations.

1. Office of General Services

9. The Assistant Secretary-General for the Office of General Services supervises three organizational units with specific responsibilities in the peace-keeping arena. These are:

(a) Field Operations Division

10. Within the Office of General Services, the Field Operations Division, in close cooperation and coordination with the other offices mentioned in this report, is responsible for a full range of management, administrative and logistic support services to peace-keeping operations and such other field missions as the Secretary-General may decide.

11. The Field Operations Division is headed by a Director and the support services it provides, organized under three Section Chiefs, encompass, inter alia, logistics, stock control, communications, liaison with Governments, assignment and administration of field personnel, travel (military and civilian), finance, budget and electronic data processing. It plays a major role at all stages of the planning and deployment of new missions; ensures uniform application of policies, procedures and guidelines for the management of human resources and for budgetary and financial operations at existing missions; and handles residual functions in respect of former missions. At the field mission level, the Chief Administrative Officer, under the operational authority of the head of the mission, is responsible to the Field Operations Division for the day-to-day administration of the full range of support services provided to the mission.

(b) Commercial, Purchase and Transportation Services

12. Commercial, Purchase and Transportation Services has among its responsibilities the procurement of supplies and equipment for United Nations field missions. Its functions are to receive quotations, make purchases and transport the equipment and supplies concerned in due time to facilitate the launching and effective functioning of the peace-keeping operation concerned. It is also responsible for administering the travel of Headquarters personnel dealing with peace-keeping operations.

(c) Telecommunications and Computer Operations Service

13. The Telecommunications and Computer Operations Service, which is part of the Electronic Services Division, provides telecommunications support at Headquarters for peace-keeping operations, including the transmission and exchange of written and oral communications, liaison with international bodies for frequency approval and operational parameters, planning and leasing of circuits for satellite communications, maintenance of circuits, and encryption and decoding of sensitive materials.

2. Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance

14. The Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance performs financial management functions in respect of peace-keeping operations. It has a specific Unit for Peace-keeping Matters and Special Assignments, which administers the accounts of all peace-keeping operations, prepares budgets in coordination with the office for Special Political Affairs and the Field Operations Division and maintains liaison on financial questions with countries contributing personnel and resources to peace-keeping operations. The Controller and Deputy Controller, as the senior officers of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance, are also involved in a supervisory capacity in matters relating to the financial aspects of peace-keeping operations.

3. Office of Human Resources Management

15. The Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM) provides support for peace-keeping operations by administering the selection and assignment of United Nations staff members for such operations and by conducting external recruitment for this purpose when necessary. Within OHRM, the Medical Service ensures, prior to the departure of the selected candidates, that they are physically and mentally fit to carry out their duties in the countries where they are being assigned. The Medical Service also prepares staff members for their international travel in respect of required immunizations, and briefs them on the health conditions of the country of assignment. OHRM provides training for staff being redeployed to peace-keeping operations. It is responsible for the establishment, maintenance and periodic field review of salaries and other conditions of service, such as mission subsistence allowances and other entitlements for United Nations staff and military observers, as well as for Headquarters oversight of the administration of such entitlements and allowances.

16. With regard to established peace-keeping operations, OHRM is responsible for job classification activities at the duty stations. Staff of OHRM are frequently outposted to administer the staff in the areas of operation. Moreover, the Medical Service has the responsibility for the medical clearance of all military observers appointed to serve in peace-keeping operations.

C. Other departments

1. Department for Political and Security Council Affairs

17. The Department for Political and Security Council Affairs provides the secretariat for the Security Council and the two committees of the General Assembly most concerned with peace-keeping operations - the Special Political Committee and the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations. It liaises closely with the Office for Special Political Affairs on meetings of the Security Council relating to the establishment and extension of peace-keeping operations, and on the Secretary-General's reports to that body.

2. Department of Conference Services

18. The Department of Conference Services provides conference facilities and interpretation for meetings relating to the establishment and functioning of peace-keeping operations. It is responsible for the translation and processing of documents and reports and for the editorial control of official documentation issued on peace-keeping operations.

3. Office for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services

19. The Office for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services provides services in respect of the planning and editing of documents and reports to the General Assembly issued in respect of peace-keeping operations.

4. Department of Public Information

20. The Department of Public Information has established, within its Communications and Project Management Division, a Peace and Security Programmes Section, whose primary function involves the preparation and dissemination of information relating to the conduct of peace-keeping operations. The Section also devises and implements a public information programme in the field for each peace-keeping operation.

III. INTERDEPARTMENTAL COOPERATION

Senior Planning and Monitoring Group

21. In order to enhance coordination among the various units listed above, the Secretary-General has established the Senior Planning and Monitoring Group on peace-keeping operations and its Peace-keeping Planning Subgroup. These bodies provide advice to the Secretary-General on matters relating to peace-keeping operations that require interdepartmental coordination. The Senior Planning and Monitoring Group, established in January 1990, was restructured by the Secretary-General in early 1991 as a smaller, high-level body which meets regularly under his Chairmanship to review current and prospective operations. The Peace-keeping Planning Subgroup, established in February 1991 under the Chairmanship of the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, provides advice to the Senior Planning and Monitoring Group on the planning of peace-keeping operations and related matters.

Task forces

22. The Secretary-General has also made it a general practice to appoint a task force on a specific area of activity that involves, or could result in, the establishment of a peace-keeping operation. The functioning of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG), for instance, was greatly facilitated by a Namibia Task Force chaired by the Secretary-General, which coordinated Headquarters directives to his Special Representative in the field. At present there are Task Forces on Cambodia, El Salvador and Western Sahara dealing with future peace-keeping operations in those areas.

ANNEX

Posts authorized under the Support Account for Peace-keeping Operations

	Professional and above	General Service and other
A. Offices of the Secretary-General		
1. Executive Office of the Secretary-General	3	1
2. Office for Special Political Affairs	5	5
3. Office of Legal Affairs	1	0
B. Other departments		
Department of Administration and Management		
1. Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance	9	8
2. Office of Human Resources Management	3	2
3. Field Operations Division, Office of General Services	14	21
4. Commercial, Purchase and Transportation Services, Office of General Services	4	9
5. Electronic Services Division, Office of General Services	1	3
6. Internal Audit Division	2	0

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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Secretariat units dealing with peace-keeping operations

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

The following text should be inserted after paragraph 16:

4. Internal Audit Division

16a. The Internal Audit Division carries out audits of all peace-keeping operations. The main objective of these audits, which are conducted both in the mission area and at Headquarters, is to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls exercised over each operation to ensure the proper, efficient and economical use of resources.

16b. The resulting audit recommendations are aimed at safeguarding the Organization's assets; reducing costs through the adoption of more efficient or economical procedures; and preventing waste, abuse or fraud through stronger controls. The Division maintains a computerized system on all audit recommendations and conducts regular follow-up to ensure that those recommendations are acted upon properly and on a timely basis.

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* A/46/50.

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REVIEW OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Review of the procedures for the provision of statements of programme budget implications and for the use and operation of the contingency fund

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	INTRODUCTION	1 - 2	2
II.	USE AND OPERATION OF THE CONTINGENCY FUND IN 1989 AND 1990	3 - 11	2
III.	PROVISION OF STATEMENTS OF PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS IN 1989 AND 1990	12 - 17	5
IV.	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	18 - 22	10

* A/46/50.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. After considering the report of the Secretary-General on statements of programme budget implications (A/44/234) at its twenty-ninth session (1989), the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) recommended, inter alia, that the procedure for the provision of statements of programme budget implications should be reviewed during the implementation of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. Recalling further that the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund would also be subject to a review, CPC recommended that the Secretary-General submit a single report on the two reviews to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and CPC at its thirty-first session. 1/ Subsequently, at its forty-fourth session, in its resolution 44/200 B on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General:

> (a) to extend progressively, in accordance with paragraph 28 of his report (ibid.), the provision of statements of programme budget implications to all subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, taking into account the feasibility of such extension in order to facilitate their decision-making process, and to keep under review the format and content of statements of programme budget implications in the context of the new budgetary process;
>
> (b) to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and CPC, and in the light of the experience gained during the implementation of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, a single report on the review of the procedures for the provision of statements of programme budget implications and for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

2. The present report is submitted in response to these two requests.

II. USE AND OPERATION OF THE CONTINGENCY FUND IN 1989 AND 1990

3. The creation of a contingency fund was decided by the General Assembly in annex I of its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations. Paragraph 8 of annex I states: "The programme budget shall include a contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall budget level, to accommodate additional expenditures relating to the biennium derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget or, subject to the provisions of paragraph 11 below, from revised estimates." Paragraph 9 stipulates that "if additional expenditures, as defined in paragraph 8 above, are proposed that exceed resources available within the contingency fund, such additional expenditures can only be included in the budget through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or

modifications of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred until a later biennium."

4. One year later, in the annex of its resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987, the General Assembly adopted criteria for the use of the contingency fund. In particular, it is stated in this annex that "each statement of programme budget implications and each proposal for revised estimates should contain a precise indication of how the alternatives mentioned in paragraph 9 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 would be applied in case it is not possible to finance all or part of the additional requirements from the fund".

5. On 21 December 1988, in its resolution 43/214 on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 1990-1991 and use and operation of the contingency fund, the General Assembly set the level of the fund for the biennium 1990-1991 at 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimates for the biennium 1990-1991, or $15 million.

6. In December 1989, when adopting the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, the General Assembly appropriated an amount of $1,879,500 from the contingency fund and took note that a balance of $13,120,500 would remain in the fund. A consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, indicating the subjects for which additional resources were requested and the nine sections of the programme budget concerned, was provided to the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/44/50).

7. In December 1990, the General Assembly appropriated an additional amount of $9,901,800 from the contingency fund and took note that a balance of $3,218,700 remained in the fund. As the year before, a consolidated statement indicated the subjects and relevant sections of the programme budget (A/C.5/45/73).

8. The table below summarizes the use of the $15 million contingency fund established for the 1990-1991 programme budget:

Section		General Assembly Forty-fourth session	General Assembly Forty-fifth session
1.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	195 800	
2B.	Disarmament affairs activities	300 400	460 900
4.	Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)	82 000	6 104 700
5A.	Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation		60 000
6.	Department of International Economic and Social Affairs		177 500
8.	Global social development issues	53 000	395 900
9.	Transnational corporations		180 000
10.	Economic Commission for Europe		20 000
11.	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific		85 000
12.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean		95 000
13.	Economic Commission for Africa	181 900	667 200
14.	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia		35 000
15.	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	420 000	387 500
20.	International drug control	287 600	995 800
23.	Human rights		120 300
26.	Legal activities	20 200	
27.	Public Information	338 600	117 000
	Total	1 879 500	9 901 800

9. Lastly, in its resolution 45/255 of 21 December 1990 on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 1992-1993, the General Assembly decided that the contingency fund for this forthcoming programme budget shall provisionally be established at the same level of 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimate, i.e. $19 million.

10. The above facts suggest a smooth use and operation of the contingency fund during the first two years of the implementation of this new feature of the budgetary process. The overall level of the fund appears to have been sufficient. All requests for the use of this fund, presented through statements of programme budget implications and revised estimates, were accepted by the General Assembly upon recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The Assembly did not have to decide on the postponement of the proposed new activities, nor to delete, modify or postpone activities included in the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

11. It should however be noted, that when the General Assembly adopted in December 1990 the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, the following comments was made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: "the Advisory Committee wished to point out that, while it had thus far been possible to accommodate the additional requirements explaining the Secretary-General's various statements of programme budget implications and revised estimates within the contingency fund, it might not always be possible to do so in the future. It therefore stressed the need for full compliance with the agreed procedures for the preparation of such statements, and particularly for the indication of alternative courses of action in case the contingency fund could not accommodate the expenditure in question". 2/

III. PROVISION OF STATEMENTS OF PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS IN 1989 AND 1990

12. There have been no significant changes during these two years regarding the total number of statements of programme budget implications submitted to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. In 1989, of the 212 resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council, 29 were accompanied by a statement of programme budget implications. In 1990, 19 programme budget implications statements were submitted to the Council, for a total of 179 resolutions and decisions. As in previous years, most of these statements originated in the subsidiary bodies of the Council, notably the Commission on Human Rights and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control. The Fifth Committee of the General Assembly considered 18 statements of programme budget implications in 1989 and 23 in 1990, for a total number of resolutions and decisions of 300 in 1989 and 312 in 1990. Overall, the practice remained as described in the report of the Secretary-General on statements of programme budget implications submitted two years ago. On the whole, statements are presented by the Secretariat when a question of possible financial implications arises.

13. The programmatic content of statements of programme budget implications has also remained largely the same. The statements contained a reference to the relevant chapter, programme and subprogramme of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1991, a reference to the relevant sections of the programme budget and an indication of the new requested activities/outputs.

14. Most important in the context of the present report, is the question of the presentation in the statements of programme budget implications of alternative courses of action in case the resources requested could not be accommodated within the contingency fund.

15. As indicated in paragraph 6 above, the General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, decided to use $1,879,500 from the contingency fund. This was a result of decisions on 11 programme budget implications or revised estimates. The alternatives indicated by the Secretariat for these 11 statements and revised estimates are summarized below:

(a) Special session of the General Assembly on narcotic drugs — $288 000

Alternative proposed for financing of public information activities (suspension of the annual one day event related to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking).

No alternative was proposed for financing of the special session; if it proved not possible to finance it from the contingency fund, the postponement of the special session might be required.

(b) Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council — $252 100

The report of the Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly on these revised estimates did not include alternative. It indicated that deferment of the proposed activities would have to be considered if redeployment of resources from low priority areas or modification of projected activities were to be impracticable. The Advisory Committee pointed out "the need for the Secretariat ... not to abdicate its responsibility to provide for consideration of intergovernmental bodies concerned precise indications of alternatives".

(c) Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa — $104 500

Alternative proposed was the deferment to 1992-1993 of an output (updating of Basic Facts about the United Nations) in a low priority programme element.

(d) Report of UNCITRAL $ 20 200

Alternative proposed was to reduce attendance of staff at sessions of working and study groups.

(e) Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa $ 57 800

Alternative proposed was the deferment to 1992-1993 of two outputs (reprints of the Charter and revisions of "Everyone's United Nations") in a low priority programme element.

(f) United Nations Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament $242 600

No alternative was proposed; establishment of the posts requested might have to be postponed.

(g) Human settlements (living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories) $420 000

No alternative was proposed; preparation of the requested study might have to be postponed.

(h) International campaign against traffic in drugs (establishment of an intergovernmental expert group) $ 82 900

Alternative proposed was to defer to the biennium 1992-1993 two of the seven meetings of an expert group included in the programme budget.

(i) International campaign against traffic in drugs (assistance of experts) $ 74 400

Alternative proposed was the same as in (h)

(j) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (information activities) $155 100

Alternative proposed was the deferment to the biennium 1992-1993 of activities (reprinting of the Charter and revision of "Everyone's United Nations") in a low priority programme element.

(k) Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa $181 900

No alternative was proposed; the requested activities might have to be postponed.

16. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly decided to appropriate $9,901,800 from the contingency fund on the basis of 16 programme budget implications or revised estimates. The alternatives indicated by the Secretariat were the following:

(a) Prevention of an arms race in outer space — $ 64 400

No alternative was proposed; the requested activities would have to be postponed.

(b) General and complete disarmament; defensive security concepts and policies — $170 700

No alternative was proposed; the requested activities would have to be postponed.

(c) Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa — $ 28 800

No alternative was proposed; the requested activities would have to be postponed.

(d) Charting potential use of resources allocated to military activities for civilian endeavours to protect the environment — $144 400

No alternative was proposed; the requested activities would have to be postponed.

(e) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research — $ 52 600

No alternative was proposed; the requested report would have to be postponed.

(f) Critical economic situation in Africa: United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 — $ 50 000

No alternative was proposed; the requested reports would have to be postponed.

(g) Revised estimates from the Economic and Social Council — $451 000

For the activities requested under sections 8, 9 and 13 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, the overall alternative proposed was to modify or defer some of the activities already programmed in these sections, except in programme elements designated as high priority.

(h) Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/72 (African Institute for Economic Development and Planning) — $392 200

No alternative was proposed to the financing of four posts in IDEP.

(i) Crime prevention and criminal justice — $364 900

No alternative was proposed; the requested activities would have to be deferred.

(j) United Nations Conference on Environment and Development — $6 374 700

Given the magnitude and nature of the request, no alternative was proposed.

(k) Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa (Information activities) — $117 000

The alternative proposed was the deferment to the 1992-1993 biennium of one output (updating of Basic Facts about the United Nations) in a low priority programme element.

(l) Implementation of the New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s — $387 500

No alternative was proposed for the activities envisaged under section 11 (ESCAP) and section 13 (ECA). Regarding the bulk of the activities, envisaged under section 15 (UNCTAD) the alternative proposed was to curtail programmed activity in UNCTAD related to trade among countries having different economic and social systems.

(m) New and renewable sources of energy — $187 500

No alternative was proposed; the requested activities would have to be postponed.

(n) International action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking (creation of a post at the Under-Secretary-General level) — $ 83 900

No alternative was proposed; the establishment of the post would have to be deferred.

(o) Activities of the Centre for Human Rights (creation of additional posts) $120 300

No alternative was proposed; the creation of additional posts might have to be deferred.

(p) Implementation of the global programme of action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session (International Drug Control) $911 900

Given the magnitude and nature of the request, no alternative was proposed.

17. In sum, 6 of the 11 statements of programme budget implications or revised estimates which prompted in 1989 the use of the contingency fund included some alternatives to the requested activities. The remaining five statements, however, represented 74 per cent of the $1,879,500 appropriated from the contingency fund. In 1990, of the 16 statements or revised estimates which generated the further use of the contingency fund, only three included alternatives. Of these, one was specific and two were of a general nature, referring to modifications or curtailments of activities pertaining to entire sections or programmes of the programme budget. The statements and revised estimates without alternatives represented 90 per cent of the $9,901,800 appropriated from the contingency fund by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

18. The above summary of the experience gained in 1989 and 1990 with the provision of programme budget implications and the contingency fund suggests conclusions and recommendations in four areas: the provision of statements to all subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council; the programmatic content of the statements; the indication in programme budget implications of alternative courses of action; and the operation of the contingency fund.

19. As noted in paragraph 1 of the present report, the progressive extension of the provision of programme budget implications was requested by the General Assembly, "taking into account the feasibility of such extension in order to facilitate their decision-making process". Such extension did not occur during these past two years. The obstacles outlined in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly (A/44/234) have yet to be overcome. One major obstacle continues to be the prevailing attitude within the Secretariat and the intergovernmental bodies concerned that the production and discussion of programme budget implications do not facilitate but hamper the legislative process. Statements are perceived as unavoidable only when additional resources might be necessary for the implementation of the activities proposed in resolutions and decisions. Another major obstacle stems from the resources available in the

Secretariat for the preparation of programme budget implications and from the time available for the preparation of these statements. Given these circumstances, it might be desirable to concentrate the efforts of the Secretariat on the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the provision of the programme budget implications to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly, rather than on the extension of such statements to all subsidiary bodies.

20. The programmatic content of the statements of programme budget implications which have been submitted these past two years remained inadequate. The characteristics of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 - high priority attached to a number of subprogrammes, a somewhat clearer description than before of the strategies and courses of action of the Secretariat - should prove helpful in implementing more fully the provision of paragraph 7 (b) of section II of resolution 38/227 A which stipulates that "each statement should indicate how the activities proposed in the draft resolution fulfil or reinforce the objective and strategies of the current legislative mandate". Also, the new format of presentation of activities in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 might facilitate the implementation of another provision of that same resolution 38/227 A which states that each statement should provide "further indications of clear implications of the draft resolution with regard to the existing programmes within the relevant section of the programme budget, in the case of possible funding through existing resources". The Secretariat is proposing to pursue its efforts in two directions. First, a written statement of programme budget implications should be systematically produced when the requested activities modify significantly the programme of work adopted with the programme budget, while not involving additional resources. Secondly, statements with additional resources that might involve the use of the contingency fund, should include precise references to the relevant programme, subprogramme and activity of the relevant section of the programme budget, and should to the extent possible also include references to comparable activities in other sections.

21. With regard to the indication in statements of programme budget implications of alternative courses of action in case the contingency fund could not accommodate the additional resources requested, the difficulties experienced by the Secretariat during these first two years of operation of the contingency fund need to be overcome. This is not an easy task. Again, obstacles stem from attitudes, resources and time available for the production of the programme budget implications. In simplified terms, the lack of alternative or the presentation of an unacceptable alternative can sometimes be perceived as the best "strategy" to secure additional resources through the use of the contingency fund. In the same vein, it could be argued that the availability of a contingency fund prevents the systematic search for obsolete or low priority activities which could be suppressed or postponed in order to accommodate new legislative requests. Only further experience with the use and operation of the contingency fund will enable the Secretariat to give an acceptable content to the notion of alternatives.

22. Apart from the question of alternatives mentioned above, which is central to the use of the contingency fund and apart from the level of this fund, the experience gained during these two years is too short to be conclusive. It should be noted, from the viewpoint of the budgetary methodology, that the resources appropriated for the various sections of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 through the use of the contingency fund were, when considered recurrent, incorporated in the resource base used for the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. It should also be mentioned that the definition of what "shall not be covered by the contingency fund and shall continue to be treated in accordance with established procedures" (para. 11 of annex I of resolution 41/213) was an issue which generated some debate during the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The concept of "extraordinary expenses" might need to be further refined.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/44/16), para. 284.

2/ A/C.5/45/SR.51.